

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/796,038

Examiner

Le H. Luu

Applicant(s)

ORITO, YOSHIKO

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to papers filed from 03/10/04 - 02/06/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/649,516.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 05/20/04-02/06/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

LE HIEN LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

1. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

2. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

-- A PRINTING SYSTEM FOR SELECTIVELY ERASING PRINT DATA SET
IN SPOOL REGION WHEN TOTAL DATA SIZE OF PRINT DATA SETS
EXCEEDS PRESET REFERENCE DATA SIZE --

3. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Nezu, patent no. 5,970,228, teaches a method of handling print data should be deleted from internal spool in the print server after retention period has passed or when the time for holding a print job as a temporarily held job has exceeded the maximum retention period. Kimura, patent no. 6,226,097, teaches size information of print data is transmitted in advance to printer server, and determination of whether or not the print data can totally be received is performed by comparing the size of the received print data and the size information when the transmission of the print data ends. In the above manner, no data remains inevitably in a buffer in the printer when the process of one job ends, which enables the next printing. In addition, Kimura teaches the printer comprises: receiving means for receiving print data from an external unit; analysis

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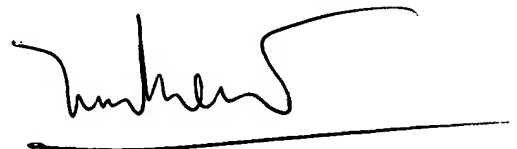
means for analyzing the print data received by the receiving means; storage means in which the print data received by the receiving means is stored; erasing means for erasing the print data stored in the storage means; and erasing control means for controlling the erasing means to erase the print data stored in the storage means when a print-interruption request in the received data. The prior art of record teaches the claimed invention substantially as discussed above, but it fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination that a print controller comprising: a print manager associates print data sets stored in a spool region with print management information that includes a predetermined condition; a judgment unit that judges whether or not total data size of the print data sets stored in spool region exceeds a preset reference data size; and a print data eraser that, when the judgment unit judges that the total data size exceeds the reference data size, selects one of the print data set according to the predetermined condition of the print management information associated with each of the print data set and erases the selected print data set from the spool region as set forth in claims 14-21. Claims 14-21 are allowed because of the combination of other limitations and the limitation listed above.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Le H. Luu whose telephone number is 571-272-3884. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LH Luu', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

LE HIEN LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER